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COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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NCAC to sponsor National College Fair



The National College Fair, sponsored by the National Association for College Admission

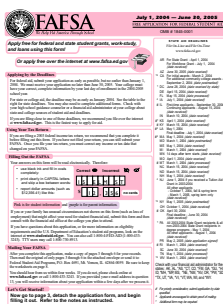
Counseling (NACAC), will be held Sunday, March 14, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the South Wing of the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville.

Admission representatives from 120 universities and colleges will be available to answer questions and provide admission information geared to high school freshmen, sophomores and juniors. High school counselors are encouraged to attend this event with their students. Along with the college fair, the following information sessions will be provided throughout the program:

- The Admission Process.
- NCAA Eligibility and the Clearinghouse.
- Financial Aid/Financial Planning.
- The ACT and SAT.

Be sure to promote this event to your freshmen, sophomores and juniors and plan to attend yourself.

It's FAFSA time!



Encourage your students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as

soon after the first of the year as possible. Students seeking college aid for the 2004-2005 school year should file the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible.

The FAFSA is used to apply for most need-based state, federal and institutional student aid programs, including those administered by KHEAA. Some student aid funds are limited, and those who apply early have the best chance to receive all of the aid for which they may qualify.

Students who file the FAFSA online will get their results 7 to 14 days faster than those who file by mail. Students can also file a paper FAFSA, available from high school guidance offices and college financial aid offices.

Just a Reminder

If you haven't sent your e-mail address to Tim Ballard, please do so. You can e-mail it to him at tballard@kheaa.com.

KHEAA and The Student Loan Peoplesm publish the *Counselor Connection* to share information about student financial aid, college preparation and college planning. Comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Please send them to publications@kheaa.com.

KHEAA and The Student Loan People do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodations to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. Printed with state funds.



College Goal Sunday . . . Coming in February

Please promote the following information to your seniors and their parents.

The Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, in cooperation with the Lumina Foundation and KHEAA, sponsors College Goal Sunday to help students and parents fill out the FAFSA. This event will be held **February 8**.



Financial aid professionals will be available at sites around Kentucky to walk students and their parents through the 2004-2005 FAFSA. Families attending College Goal Sunday should bring all the information needed for filling out their tax forms. Financial aid professionals will help them use that information to complete the FAFSA.

Following are the sites for College Goal Sunday. Students and parents who plan to attend should arrive by 2 p.m. For more information, call toll free 888.452.7322.

City	State	City	State
Ashland	Ashland Community College J.B. Sowards Theatre	Lexington	Lexington Community College 230 Oswald Building
Bowling Green	Western Kentucky University Grisee Hall 2nd Floor Auditorium	Louisville	Male High School 4425 Preston Highway
Campbellsville	Campbellsville University Student Union Building Little Auditorium	Louisville	St. Stephens Church 1008 South 15th Street
Crestview Hills	Thomas More College Student Center Steigerwald Hall	Madisonville	Madisonville Technical College 750 North Laffoon Street
Elizabethtown	Elizabethtown Technical College Central Regional Postsecondary Education Center, Room 505	Morehead	Morehead State University University Adron Doran Center Commonwealth Room
Frankfort	KHEAA Paul P. Borden Conference Room	Owensboro	Kentucky Wesleyan College Rogers Hall Winchester Center
Hazard	Hazard Community College Expo Center, Room 123 B	Paducah	West Kentucky Community and Technical College Crounse Hall, Room 101
Hopkinsville	Hopkinsville Community College Auditorium Gallery	Richmond	Eastern Kentucky University
		Somerset	Somerset Community College 808 Monticello Street



Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship transfers to KHEAA

Effective with the 2004-2005 award cycle, KHEAA will administer the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship. Robert C. Byrd has been a U.S. Senator

from West Virginia since 1959. The education and training of West Virginia and America's youth have been his career-long concerns. Inspired by the success of his state program in promoting academic excellence among West Virginia's high school students, Senator Byrd

authored and secured passage of the federally funded Robert C. Byrd Scholarship. This national plan provides scholarships to academically talented high school seniors and GED recipients who show promise of continued excellence in postsecondary education.

In order to apply for this scholarship, a student must:

- Be a legal resident of Kentucky and a U.S. citizen
- Have applied or been accepted for enrollment at a college or university within the U.S.

- Have received a GED with a composite test score of 2700 or higher
- Graduate from a secondary school in the spring of 2004 with a 7-semester 3.5 GPA and a 23 or higher on the ACT
- Be recommended by a school official or an adult education provider.

Applications must be postmarked by February 15 for high school students and June 30 for GED recipients. School officials and adult education providers who want to recommend eligible students must submit applications for those students. The applications will not be accepted if mailed by individual students. Because of the limited number of awards, KHEAA can only accept one GED application per county. Please refer to the application KHEAA mailed to high schools in November regarding the number of high school applicants that can be submitted by each school.

The scholarship amount is \$1,500 per year for a total of four years.

For more information and a copy of the application, please visit www.kheaa.com or contact Amy Sword, Program Coordinator, at 800.928.8926 or asword@kheaa.com.

Baldwin named Outreach Coordinator



Kim Baldwin
South Central Kentucky
Outreach Counselor

KHEAA and The Student Loan People are pleased to announce the appointment of Kim Baldwin as the Outreach Coordinator for the South Central Kentucky region effective January 26. Kim is currently employed as the Student Services Coordinator at the Danville Branch of Eastern Kentucky University.

The counties in the region that Kim will be covering are:

Adair
Boyle
Casey
Garrard
Laurel

Lincoln
Marion
McCreary
Mercer
Pulaski

Rockcastle
Russell
Taylor
Washington
Wayne

On the map in the December *Counselor Connection*, the area that Kim will be covering is shown in green.



Manual student wins essay contest

A Jefferson County high school junior took top honors in a \$500 scholarship essay contest and earned his school a photo shoot for pictures to be used in statewide college planning publications.

Albert Yu sold the judging panel on his solid explanation of why duPont Manual is the best high school in the state.

"Manual students have achieved recognition at the national and international levels by winning in competitions like the International Science Fair, the Teen Jeopardy Tournament and the National Art Award," Yu wrote.

Certificates of Merit were awarded to Rebecca Jaffe, also of Manual, and Amanda Looney, of East Ridge High School in Pike County.

The contest, sponsored by KHEAA and The Student Loan Peoplesm, gathered dozens of entries from throughout the state. Judges said picking a winner was difficult.



Albert Yu
Scholarship Winner

Yu's essay was chosen from among several strong entries because it presented a good picture of the variety of students and majors and of the success of Manual's students.

"His essay was written in straightforward, unpretentious language that spoke of the sincerity of his words," one judge said. "Like all of the essays, his conveyed a strong sense of pride in his school."

Yu "emphasized the broad scope of duPont Manual High School's capacity to teach, rather than one

student's personal impression," according to another judge.

Manual is a magnet school offering the most College Board Advanced Placement courses in Kentucky along with special instruction in five component areas: the University Academic Center; Youth Performing Arts School; visual arts; communications media arts; and mathematics, science and technology. With a 97 percent college attendance rate, Manual has earned numerous national and state honors.

Yu received his award from Blake Tanner, KHEAA's Chief Operating Officer.

Yu, Jaffe and other Manual students participated in a photo shoot at the school January 12. The pictures will be used in free college planning guides targeted at each year of high school, posters, brochures and other KHEAA publications.

KHEAA and The Student Loan People plan to make the contest an annual event.

Please send us information about local scholarships

KHEAA and The Student Loan People are now gathering information for the 2004-2005 edition of *Affording Higher Education*.

This handy reference book lists as many student financial aid sources available to Kentucky students as we can find. But we need your help.

If you are aware of any scholarships available in your community that are not already listed in *Affording Higher Education*,

please send us the information about them.

We need the name of the scholarship, the criteria used in awarding the scholarship, how much the scholarship is worth, and the contact information that a student needs in order to apply for the scholarship.

Affording Higher Education currently has information about more than 3,200 different financial aid

opportunities for Kentucky students. With your help, we can increase that number and make the book even more valuable for you and your students.

To submit information about a scholarship program, please write Janice Ballou, KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798; call 800-928-8926, ext. 7381; or e-mail jballou@kheaa.com. Thanks for your help.